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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/670,064

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Michael L. Case

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EXAMINER

LUONG, ALAN H

ART UNIT

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2427

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/670,064	Applicant(s) CASE, MICHAEL L.	
	Examiner ALAN LUONG	Art Unit 2427	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 19 November 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-23 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. The Art unit is changed into 2427.
2. Claims 1-3, 5, 8-10, 13-15 and 18 have been amended. Therefore, claims 1-23 are pending in this application.

Continued Examination under 37 CFR 1.114

3. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on Nov 19, 2008, has been entered.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

4. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

5. Claims **1- 5, 8-10, 13-15 and 18-21** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Publication No. 2005/0172332 by Fukuda et al.

Regarding to claim 1: Fig. 2 of Fukuda illustrates an apparatus comprising:

a tuner [102] to receive modulated video signals (¶0054), the tuner having an external control interface [203] to receive commands in a first protocol (i.e. is isochronous transfer or AV/C protocol is defined in ¶0057)) specific to the tuner at the external control interface (Fukuda, ¶0070) and a graphics controller [230] to generate commands in a second generalized protocol (i.e. is asynchronous transfer or serial bus connection protocol is defined in [¶0058]) (The control unit 230 also asynchronous transfers the operation input, executed on the remote control panel, to a device corresponding to such remote control panel). (Fukuda, ¶0079)

The tuner [102] includes **a microcontroller [204] which controls process operation of tuner [102] (Fukuda, ¶0059), coupled to the graphics controller 230 and to the tuner 102 by interface [221 and 203] to receive the commands from the graphics controller in the second protocol (the graphics controller 230 reads the remote control information of the remote controller 104 and sends such information to the external control interface [203] of the tuner (102) through the second protocol) (Fukuda, ¶0095) to convert the commands from the second protocol to the first protocol (Based on the remote control information, the microcontroller controls the display panel generation unit of the tuner reconstructs its remote control panel stored in advance, and stores the reconstructed remote control panel in the memory display panel generation unit) (Fukuda, ¶0096) and to transmit the converted commands to the external control interface of the tuner. (The controller controls the interface executes transfer**

of the remote control panel, supplied from the display panel generation unit , to the external control interface of the digital television receiver according to a second communication protocol). (Fukuda, ¶0056).

Regarding to claim 2. The apparatus of Claim 1, Fig. 4 of Fukuda illustrates wherein the tuner further generates command responses in the first protocol (¶0090) and wherein the microcontroller receives the command responses, converts them to the second protocol and transmits the converted command responses to the graphics controller (Fukuda, ¶0097, ¶0098).

Regarding to claim 3: The apparatus of Claim 1, Fukuda further teaches a **second tuner [103] to receive a modulated video signal** (Fukuda, ¶0062-¶0063)., **the second tuner having an external interface [213] to receive commands in a third protocol**(i.e. is the same isochronous transfer or AV/C protocol is defined in ¶0057) **specific to the second tuner, and wherein the microcontroller [214]** (i.e. 214 has the same function as 204) **receives external commands from the graphics controller for the second tuner in the second protocol** (Fukuda, ¶0095), **converts them to the third protocol** (Fukuda, ¶0096) **and transmits them to the external interface of second tuner** (Fukuda, ¶0065).

Regarding to claim 4: The apparatus of Claim 1, referring to Fig. 2 of Fukuda **wherein the tuner further comprises an input/output interface [203] to communicate data and control signals in the first protocol to external devices** as a digital TV receiver [101] **and wherein the microcontroller [204] is coupled to the**

input/output interface to convert data and control signals between the first protocol and the second protocol (Fukuda, ¶0056).

Regarding to claim 5: The apparatus of Claim 1, referring to Fig. 2 of Fukuda wherein the graphics controller [230] is **a system processor coupled to the microprocessor to generate the commands in the first protocol to control the tuner** (the graphics controller of receiver communicates with tuner in isochronous channel based on the first protocol (¶0090) and connection by issuing a User-Action command to the external interface of tuner and sends it to the microprocessor which in response executes control corresponding to such User_Action command)(Fukuda, ¶0105-¶0106) **and to control other functions of the apparatus.** (Fukuda, ¶0079)

Regarding to claim 8: has the same limitation in claim 1, so, claim 8 is rejected the same ground with claim 1

Regarding to claim 9: has the same limitation in claim 2, so, claim 9 is rejected the same ground with claim 2

Regarding to claim 10: has the same limitation in claim 3, so, claim 10 is rejected the same ground with claim 3

Regarding to claim 13: With respect to the article claim 13, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function required by apparatus in claim 1 and since this article in claim 13 merely

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repeats the same limitations of claim 1, claim 13 must also be anticipated by Fukuda (see claim 1 rejection).

Regarding to claim 14: With respect to the article claim 14, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function required by apparatus in claim 2 and since this article in claim 14 merely repeats the same features of claim 2, claim 14 must also be anticipated by Fukuda (see claim 2 rejection).

Regarding to claim 15: With respect to the article claim 15, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function required by apparatus in claim 3 and since this article in claim 15 merely repeats the same features of claim 3, claim 15 must also be anticipated by Fukuda (see claim 3 rejection).

Regarding to claim 18: With respect to the video tuner claim 18, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function of system processor as combination of function of CPU and a graphics controller required by an apparatus claim 1 and since this video tuner in claim 18 merely repeats the same scope of claim 1, claim 18 must also be anticipated by Fukuda (see claim 1 rejection).

Regarding to claim 19: With respect to the video tuner claim 19, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function required by an apparatus claim 2 and since this video tuner in claim 19

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merely repeats the same scope of claim 2, claim 19 must also be anticipated by Fukuda (see claim 2 rejection).

Regarding to claim 20: With respect to the video tuner claim 20, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function required by an apparatus claim 3 and since this video tuner in claim 20 merely repeats the same scope of claim 3, claim 20 must also be anticipated by Fukuda (see claim 3 rejection).

Regarding to claim 21: With respect to the video tuner claim 21, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function required by an apparatus claim 4 and since this video tuner in claim 21 merely repeats the same scope of claim 4, claim 20 must also be anticipated by Fukuda (see claim 4 rejection).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

1. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

2. **Claims 6, 11, 16 and 22** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukuda, in view of US Patent No 6,772,434 to Godwin

Regarding to claim 6: Fukuda teaches all limitations of claim 1, but fails to

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teach a look-up table for the tuner wherein the microprocessor converts the external tuner commands by applying the commands in the second protocol to the look-up table.

In an analogous art directed toward a similar problem namely improving the results from a look-up table for the tuner. Fig. 3A of Godwin shows a data stream and Fig. 3B shows a data package as **a look-up table** (Godwin, col.5 lines 13-52) **for the tuner** (col. 4 line 61 to col.5 line 5). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify an apparatus of Fukuda, with a data stream and a data packet for tuner as Godwin's disclosure; in order to provide a system for an integrated presentation of the media programs from primary service providers and secondary service providers, and an integrated technique for managing conditional access to the programs provided by different service providers.

Regarding to claim 11 and 16: With respect to the method claim 11 and 16, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function required by apparatus claim 6 in view of Godwin and since this method in claim 11 and 16 merely repeat the limitation of claim 6, claim 11 and 16 have the same ground rejection as claim 6.

Regarding to claim 22: With respect to the method claim 22, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function required by apparatus claim 6 in view of Godwin and since this method in claim 22 merely repeat the limitation of claim 6, claim 22 have the same ground rejection as claim 6.

3. **Claims 7, 12, 17 and 23** are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fukuda, in view of US Pub. 2003/0194968 by Young.

Regarding to claim 7: Fukuda teaches all features of apparatus in claim 1, but Fukuda is unclear regarding to “an instruction stack specific for the tuner and wherein the microcontroller converts the external tuner commands by applying instructions from the tuner-specific instruction stack”.

In an analogous art directed toward a similar problem namely improving the results from an instruction stack specific for the tuner. Young teaches **an instruction stack** (as “stream using RTP/RTSP protocol”...**specific for the tuner**), (see ¶0074 lines 1-6) and (Fig. 2b block 252, Fig.6c block 251) **and wherein the microcontroller converts the external tuner commands by applying instructions from the tuner-specific instruction stack** (Young, ¶0073-¶0074]). Therefore, it would have been obvious to a person having an ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention was made to modify an apparatus of Fukuda with an instruction stack specific for the tuner as taught by Young to install and configure due to the fact that each device must be equipped with a proprietary interface for communicating to other devices on the network. (¶0009)

Regarding to claim 12 and 17: With respect to the method claim 12 and 17, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda anticipated every structural element and its function required by apparatus claim 7 in view of Young and since this method in claim 12 and 17 merely repeat the limitation of claim 7, claim 12 and 17 have the same ground rejection as claim 7.

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Regarding to claim 23 With respect to the video tuner claim 23, as discussed above since the apparatus disclosed by Fukuda and Young anticipated every structural element and its function required by an apparatus claim 7 and since this video tuner in claim 23 merely repeats the same scope of claim 7, claim 23 must also be anticipated by Fukuda and Young (see claim 7 rejection).

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-23 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to ALAN LUONG whose telephone number is (571)270-5091 and Fax number is (571) 270-6091. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon.-Thurs., 8:00am-5pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Scott Beliveau can be reached on (571) 272-7343. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Jason P Salce/
Primary Examiner, Art Unit 2421

01/13/2009

/A. L./
Examiner, Art Unit 2427